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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 18 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to my previous letters on the same subject, I have the honour to convey to you hereunder a list of the violations that were committed by Israel against Lebanon in the period from 29 May to 15 June 2001. Lebanon regards these incidents as an extension of Israel's aggression against its people and territory.

29 May 2001

Between 1110 and 1230 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at very high altitudes.

At 1555 hours there were two unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

At 1645 hours three rounds were heard being fired from a military weapon in an outlying area of Ramiyah near the post of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

At intervals between 1940 and 2315 hours Israeli warplanes and reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Naqurah and Bint Jubayl area at very high altitudes.

Between 1855 and 2150 hours two Israeli helicopters flew over the occupied Shab'a farmlands and over occupied Palestinian territory between the Abbad position and Humin hill opposite the town of Markaba. Israeli forces at the Summaqah hill outpost in the occupied Shab'a farmlands directed several bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at the surrounding area.

30 May 2001

Between 1020 and 1500 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at very high altitudes and an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Nabatiyah and Naqurah areas, also at very high altitude.

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At 1115 hours Israeli warplanes flew over the boundary between Lebanon and occupied Palestine.

At 1200 hours enemy warplanes overflew the Jba` area at moderate altitudes, breaking the sound barrier.

At 1315 hours enemy warplanes overflew the Qulaylah area.

Between 2035 and 2115 hours a balloon was seen over the Israeli forces outpost at Ramta hill in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

Between 2135 and 2240 hours two Israeli helicopters flew over the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

Between 2215 and 2225 hours an Israeli gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah directed several bursts of miscellaneous-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

At 2345 hours Israeli enemy forces launched four illumination flares over outlying areas of Alma al-Sha`b.

31 May 2001

Between 1300 and 1345 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Western Bekaa and the South at very high altitudes as far as a point 12 nautical miles west of the Batrun coast, breaking the sound barrier.

At 1240 hours Mahdi Husayn Fawwaz, born in Kafr Killa in 1950, was working on a plot of land in the Sahl al-Khiyam locality opposite the Metullah settlement when an Israeli patrol inside the border strip and inside occupied Palestinian territory drew near him. It ordered him to stop work and warned him to leave the area. The patrol left at 1300 hours. A number of Lebanese journalists then came to the spot, and the worker resumed his normal work.

At 1305 hours there were some unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

Between 0100 and 1830 hours occupation forces erected a metallic fence some 10 metres high and 50 metres long around their outpost at Riyaq hill in occupied Palestinian territory opposite the Fatimah Gate.

Between 1900 and 2140 hours two Israeli helicopters flew over the occupied Shab`a farmlands as well as the Misgav Am settlement and the Abbad position in occupied Palestinian territory.

Between 2000 and 2020 hours Israeli forces at the Ruwaysat al-Summaqah outpost in the occupied Shab`a farmlands strafed the surrounding area with medium-weapons fire.

Between 2100 and 2215 hours there were some unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

At 2200 hours Israeli forces launched four illumination flares over the Naqurah area in occupied Palestinian territory.

Between 2150 and 2215 hours Israeli forces at the Birkat Risha outpost in the occupied Shab`a farmlands launched 10 illumination flares over the Lebanon-Palestine boundary opposite the Labbunah area and Palestinian territorial waters.

Between 2200 and 2230 hours Israeli forces at their outposts in the occupied territories opposite Rumaysh, Ayta al-Sha`b and Yarun fired several artillery shells and directed a number of bursts of medium-weapons fire at areas in occupied Palestinian territory.

1 June 2001

At 0345 hours there were three unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

Between 1100 and 1215 hours Israeli enemy warplanes overflew the occupied Shab`a farmlands and the Hasbayya and Marj Uyun areas at very high altitudes.

At 1010 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Radar hill outpost in the occupied Shab`a farmlands directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

At 1120 hours an Israeli enemy soldier at the Fatimah Gate proceeded to fire three rounds into the air from a light weapon while there were a number of citizens at the Gate. No one was hurt.

Between 1330 and 1825 hours a bulldozer belonging to the Israeli enemy forces excavated a new position between the Zibdin and Fashkul outposts in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

Between 1530 and 1815 hours a bulldozer belonging to the Israeli enemy forces was engaged in fortification work at an outpost in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

Between 1600 and 1700 hours Israeli enemy forces raised a 12-metre-high pole fitted with observation cameras at their Ruwaysat al-Alam outpost.

2 June 2001

Between 0255 and 0330 hours an Israeli gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah launched three illumination flares over surrounding areas.

Between 0515 and 0615 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Ramta and Summaqah outposts in the occupied Shab`a farmlands directed several bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at surrounding areas.

At 1000 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Jba` detachment, breaking the sound barrier.

At 1325 hours Israeli occupation forces at the Summaqah outpost in the occupied Shab`a farmlands fired two 81-mm mortar rounds at surrounding areas.

3 June 2001

At frequent intervals between 1000 and 1845 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South, the Bekaa, the North and Mount Lebanon at various altitudes, launching heat balloons in the Shuf, Kafr Shuba and Rayhan areas. They were engaged by the Lebanese Army L-11 anti-aircraft artillery units in Sidon and the L-3 units in the Bekaa.

Between 1330 and 1335 hours Israeli forces at the Ruwaysat al-Alam outpost in the occupied Shab'a farmlands directed several bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at the surrounding area.

Between 1310 and 1900 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Jazzin, Naqurah and Bekaa areas at very high altitude.

Between 1600 and 1610 hours two Israeli helicopters flew over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

Between 2010 and 2200 hours eight Israeli helicopters were seen flying inside occupied Palestinian territory opposite Mirwahin, Ramiya, Ayta al-Sha'b, Rumaysh, Yarun and Marun al-Ras.

At 2010 hours an Israeli gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah directed several bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at surrounding areas.

4 June 2001

Between 1000 and 1020 hours Israeli warplanes overflew all parts of Lebanon at very high altitudes, breaking the sound barrier.

Between 1115 and 1145 hours two Israeli helicopters flew over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

Between 1325 and 1445 hours three Israeli helicopters flew over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

At 1230 hours an Israeli gunboat in Palestinian territorial waters off Ra's al-Naqurah launched an illumination flare over the surrounding area.

At 2200 hours an Israeli patrol consisting of 10 HMMWV ("Hummer") vehicles was seen inside occupied Palestinian territory opposite Dahirah.

5 June 2001

Between 0200 and 0400 hours an Israeli gunboat in Palestinian territorial waters off Ra's al-Naqurah launched two illumination flares and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

During the morning Israeli forces again raised a pole fitted with two observation cameras opposite the Wazzani spring south of the Blue Line.

At 1200 hours a number of Israeli military vehicles were seen with some 50 Israeli soldiers on the newly-built road between Abbasiyah and Ghajar. They were engaged in laying a barbed-wire strip along the south side. Four civilian vehicles were also seen along the road leading to the occupied Fashkul outpost, and they were laying barbed wire along the eastern side of the road.

At 1210 hours two Israeli HMMWV ("Hummer") vehicles arrived at the newly-built road between Abbasiyah and Ghajar.

At 1300 hours an Israeli gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

Between 1330 and 1400 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Naqurah area at very high altitudes.

From 1000 hours some 50 elements of the Israeli enemy's army were engaged in laying a barbed-wire strip along the south side of the road that runs parallel to the boundary between Lebanon and occupied Palestine between Abbasiyah and Ghajar.

Between 2245 and 2310 hours Israeli forces directed several bursts of medium-machine-gun fire and fired three 81-mm mortar rounds at the Shab'a — Ayn Ata road in liberated Lebanese territory.

6 June 2001

During the night of 5/6 June Israeli enemy forces proceeded to install a prefabricated concrete shelter near their outpost at Ghajar in the occupied territories 10 metres south of the Blue Line.

Between 0800 and 1730 hours an Israeli military Poclain-type bulldozer was engaged in fortification work in the vicinity of the spot where the pole fitted with the observation camera had been raised in the occupied town of Ghajar.

At 1015 hours there was an unexplained explosion to the east of the Fashkul outpost in the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

Between 1615 and 1645 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South and Mount Lebanon at very high altitudes, breaking the sound barrier.

Between 2105 and 2115 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Ruwaysat al-Alam outpost in the occupied Shab'a farmlands directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

Between 2115 and 2145 hours an Israeli helicopter flew over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

At 2145 hours there were two unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

7 June 2001

A landmine exploded opposite the Lebanese Army barracks in the Kafr Falus area, Jazzin district, and there was one unidentified casualty. It was not known whether he was alive or dead, since the Lebanese Army was unable to extricate him.

Between 1130 and 1500 hours elements of the Israeli enemy's army were engaged in maintenance work on the fence around their outpost at Fashkul in the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

At 1140 hours there were four unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

Between 2005 and 2025 hours an Israeli enemy gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah directed a number of bursts of miscellaneous automatic-weapons fire at surrounding areas and launched an illumination flare.

Between 1925 and 2015 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Ruwaysat al-Alam and Radar hill outposts in the occupied Shab'a farmlands directed a number of

bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at the surrounding area. Four Israeli helicopters also flew over the occupied Shab`a farmlands and over occupied Palestinian territory opposite Udaysah.

8 June 2001

At 0010 hours there were two unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

At 0330 hours an Israeli gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah directed several bursts of miscellaneous automatic-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

At 1535 hours there were four unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

At 1540 hours Israeli occupation forces strafed the area around their outpost at Ruwaysat al-Alam in the occupied Shab`a farmlands with light-weapons fire.

9 June 2001

Between 0400 and 0500 hours an Israeli gunboat in Palestinian territorial waters off Ra's al-Naqurah directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

Between 1445 and 1450 hours there were three unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab`a farmlands. Israeli enemy forces at the Ruwaysat al-Alam outpost in the occupied Shab`a farmlands also directed a number of bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at the surrounding area.

Between 1500 and 1655 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Jazzin, Brital and Riyaq areas at very high altitude.

Between 2015 and 2225 hours two Israeli helicopters flew over the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

At 2100 hours an Israeli gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah launched an illumination flare over the surrounding area.

10 June 2001

Between 0840 and 0850 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Radar hill outpost in the occupied Shab`a farmlands directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

At 0445 hours an Israeli gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Bayyadah directed a number of bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at the surrounding area.

Between 0525 and 0710 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Ruwaysat al-Alam outpost in the occupied Shab`a farmlands directed a number of bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at the surrounding area. There were also two unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

At intervals between 1100 and 1250 hours Israeli warplanes overflew all parts of Lebanon at very high altitudes, breaking the sound barrier.

11 June 2001

At 0800 hours Dahir Husayn Mar'i, his son Ali and Husayn Ali Hallawi, all from Kafr Killa, were tending livestock in the Barrad area in liberated territory opposite the Metullah settlement when an Israeli enemy patrol consisting of three HMMWV ("Hummer") vehicles arrived in the locality from the opposite direction. They threatened to shoot the herdsmen in order to force them to leave the area, and they left immediately.

Between 1100 and 1420 hours a trencher was seen engaged in fortification work at the Summaqah outpost in the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

Between 1950 and 2130 hours an Israeli enemy gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas and launched an illumination flare.

Between 2030 and 2130 hours two Israeli helicopters flew over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

12 June 2001

Between 0635 and 0700 hours Israeli forces strafed the area around their outposts at Ramta hill and Ruwaysat al-Alam hill in the occupied Shab'a farmlands with medium-weapons fire.

Between 0800 and 1815 hours Israeli forces proceeded to fortify their outposts at Mazra'at Fashkul and Ruwaysat al-Summaqah in the occupied Shab'a farmlands using two Poclain-type excavators.

Between 1105 and 1645 hours there were three unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

Between 1440 and 1900 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Naqurah, Tyre, Bint Jubayl and Shab'a areas at very high altitude.

Between 0500 and 1605 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South at various altitudes, and at 1530 hours they were engaged by the anti-aircraft artillery of the resistance.

Between 1530 and 1545 hours an Israeli gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

13 June 2001

Between 0330 and 0515 hours an Israeli gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah launched two illumination flares and directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

Between 1000 and 1300 hours two bulldozers of the Israeli enemy were engaged in fortification work at the Ruwaysat al-Alam and Summaqah outposts in the occupied Shab'a farmlands. A number of Israeli trucks were also seen carrying gravel from the Baniyas area in the occupied territories to the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

Between 1240 and 1315 hours Israeli warplanes flew over the sea off Tripoli heading towards Ba`labakk. They then circled between Beirut, Wata al-Jawz, Shikka and Ba`labakk.

At 2120 hours there suddenly appeared on the radar screen at Beirut International Airport, on a feed from the operations room of the fraternal Syrian forces at Dahr al-Baydar, Israeli warplanes that were seen to be overflying Khaldah, Na`imah and Sidon and heading towards Baruk and Qir`awn and then Jazzin and Tyre. They left Lebanese airspace at 2320 hours over the sea, heading south.

At 1825 hours there were three unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

At 2200 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Ruwaysat al-Alam outpost in the occupied Shab`a farmlands directed a number of bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at the surrounding area.

14 June 2001

At 0045 hours there appeared on the radar screen at Beirut International Airport a potential hostile target over Na`imah moving slowly southwards. It disappeared from the radar screen at 0103 hours when it was over Tyre.

Between 0640 and 0650 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Ruwaysat al-Alam and Summaqah outposts in the occupied Shab`a farmlands directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at the surrounding area.

During the day a number of Israeli trucks carried gravel from the Baniyas area towards the Shab`a farmlands.

At 2330 hours there were two unexplained explosions in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

Between 2330 and 2350 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Naqurah area at very high altitude.

Between 1035 and 1745 hours a Poclain-type trencher was seen engaged in fortification work at the Summaqah outpost of the Israeli enemy forces in the occupied Shab`a farmlands.

Between 1350 and 1405 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Hasbayya, Marj Uyun and Bint Jubayl areas and the Shab`a farmlands at very high altitudes.

Between 1345 and 1400 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Ruwaysat al-Alam outpost directed several bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

15 June 2001

Between 1055 and 1210 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Jazzin and Western Bekaa areas at very high altitude.

At 2235 hours an Israeli gunboat in the territorial waters of occupied Palestine off Ra's al-Naqurah launched an illumination flare over the surrounding area.

At 2345 hours Israeli forces at one of their positions in the occupied Shab`a farmlands launched several illumination flares over the surrounding area.

Like the previous Israeli violations of which it represents a continuation, this latest series is in flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and of Lebanon's sovereignty and poses a threat to stability in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 40, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sélim **Tadmoury**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative